



# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

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## Situation Report

### Severe Storms

July 23, 2006 Afternoon Summary

**UPDATED INFORMATION IS IN BOLD**

#### SUMMARY

A Federal disaster declaration was received on July 21, 2006, (FEMA-3267-EM), for City of St. Louis, and the counties of St. Louis, Dent, Iron, Jefferson, St. Charles, and Washington. FEMA is authorized to provide debris removal and emergency protective measures, (Categories A and B), including direct Federal assistance under the Public Assistance program, at 75 percent Federal funding. Additional designations may be made at a later date after further evaluation.

Ameren officials report that **as of 1pm, about 247,000** customers in Missouri are without power, **with 163,000 located in St Louis County, 66,000 in St Louis City, and the remainder in Washington, Jefferson, and St Charles Counties among others.** **4000 personnel** are involved in restoration efforts, the largest effort in company history. **Power has been restored to 10 nursing homes in the metro area, while four more remain without power at this time.** Ameren officials continue to work directly with city, county, state and federal authorities to coordinate other priority restoration areas as needed.

#### City of St. Louis

**3 shelters remain open, although populations continue to decrease. Volunteer agencies report 187 people stayed at the shelters on Saturday night. This is down from a population of 569 at these same shelters on Friday. 11 cooling centers are also open throughout the city. Despite media reports to the contrary, there is NO widespread looting taking place in the City. A number of traffic signals remain without power, or in need of repair. City crews will be working on debris removal for the next two days or so. City workers are conducting door-to-door health checks to locate people who may need assistance.**

#### St. Louis County

County reports traffic signals at **77 intersections** are not working because of power outage. **Four shelters remain open, although populations continue to decrease. Volunteer agencies report 87 people stayed at the shelters on Saturday night. This is down from a population of 178 at these same shelters on Friday. Water systems in the County have been restored to near 100% operation. Food and water are being distributed at several locations. All fire and EMS crews from outside the metro area have been released to their home jurisdictions.**

#### Washington County

City of Potosi has its water supply back on line, but many residents in the county remain without water. State and local officials have been working with Anheuser-Busch and Wal-Mart to provide bottled water on a short-term basis. Officials are looking at possibly setting up water distribution points around the county. One shelter is still open with a population of 25 people. The county is reviewing needs for generators and health care providers. State officials completed a damage assessment on Friday. 2 homes were confirmed destroyed, while 4 had major damage, and 109 had minor damage.

### State Actions

**Governor Blunt** issued a public service announcement warning citizens on the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning due to running generators without proper ventilation, and other safety related issues caused by lack of electrical power.

**State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA)** continues to operate the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) at a Level-2 activation, with staffing from several state response agencies. SEMA also has a liaison working from the St Louis City Emergency Operations Center. SEMA staff are continuing to collect information from metro and outlying areas of the state effected by this storm system. SEMA will coordinate with FEMA Region 7 and continue to monitor situation and respond to requests for support.

**Office of Administration (OA)** is working on coordinating delivery of ice and generators to various state facilities in the affected area. Generators were delivered to the Missouri Veterans Home this morning. Ice was delivered to Bellefontaine Habilitation Center on Saturday. Additional deliveries of ice are expected to take place today at various locations. OA coordinated the use of two generators from the City of Rolla to the City of St. Louis Metro Police at two locations within the city.

**Missouri National Guard (MONG)** has over 400 personnel on duty performing various missions. 10 teams are doing health and welfare checks with local fire departments. Five additional teams are performing debris removal activities. One additional team is conducting a transport mission within the area. **The Guard is also hauling ice from Clinton to the St Louis area.**

**Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP)** is working with DNR to deliver three truckloads of Meals, Ready-To-Eat (MREs) to distribution centers. MSHP provided 10 Troopers to assist St. Louis County with police duties in North County. MSHP provided aircraft support for damage assessment in Washington County.

**Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS)** has issued a public service announcement asking for volunteer registered nurses and trained nursing assistants to help in the St Louis area. DHSS is reviewing a request to deploy some of those nurses to shelters in the metro area. DHSS are contacting health agencies in Dent, Iron, Jefferson, and Washington Counties to further assess needs for medical professionals. IV supplies were reported to be getting in short supply in Potosi, and that need is being addressed.

**Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)** reports traffic signals out at 40 intersections in St Louis County. Otherwise, state highways in the metro area are near normal. Dist 6 is reviewing plans for dealing with critical signals that may still be out for rush hour Monday morning. MoDOT has also been reviewing requests for overdimension shipments (i.e. overweight/oversize) on an expedited basis.

**Department of Mental Health (DMH)** reports that power has been restored to Bellefontaine Habilitation Center, but the facility will continue to run on a generator until an engineer can safely switch to the Ameren system sometime this evening. South County Rehabilitation Center has also been connected. Department of Mental Health gave out toll-free number (1-800-364-9687) for shelters and agencies to provide to anyone who may need assistance.

**Department of Natural Resources (DNR)** has provided technical assistance to City officials in Potosi and Caledonia in Washington County on getting water supplies back online, now that power has been restored. DNR has issued a debris waste waiver for yard waste. DNR and Dept of Social Services are working with private businesses to supply bottled drinking water to distribution sites in St. Louis City/County and Potosi Missouri.

**Department of Social Services (DSS)** has coordinated deliveries of water to St Louis City and deliveries of water and MREs to Washington County. DSS continues to work on mass care requests for affected jurisdictions.

State, Federal, and local government officials are continuing to participate in daily conference calls to coordinate resource requests and maintain communications.

**Federal Actions**

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is operating with an advance team out of the SEOC. Also, an ESF-8 team (Public Health and Medical Services) has been dispatched to the area to conduct a medical needs assessment. A debris management technician is also conducting an assessment for future debris operations.

**Other State Agency and Volunteer Agency Actions**

American Red Cross (ARC) and The Salvation Army (TSA) along with numerous other organizations are operating shelters in St Louis City, St Louis County, and assisting with mass feeding operations across the affected area. Volunteer agencies continue to work with local governments in the storm affected areas. Requests for cots, cooling tents, and other assistance continue to be passed on to these agencies.

**Weather**

National Weather Service expects a gradual warming trend for the early part of this week. Highs are expected to hit 90 by Monday, and 95 by Thursday, with heat indices reaching 100 in the metro area by that time. Another front could move through the area by the latter part of the week, although it's too early to determine if severe weather will develop as a result. The weather service believes another heat wave could start affecting the area at the start of next week (July 31).

**Point of Contact:**

SEMA Duty Officer after hours (Starting at 4:30 pm) number is 573-751-2748. During normal duty hours calls should be made to 573-526-9100.

This Situation Report and other storm-related information may be viewed at the following web address:

<http://sema.dps.mo.gov/Situation%20Reports.htm>